

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

DDI Registry

DDI Chrono  
13 May

13 May 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Members of the Crisis Pre-Planning Group

FROM : Robert M. Gates  
Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Developments in the Middle East [redacted]

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1. We are concerned about an increased possibility of terrorist attacks on American targets in the Middle East during the next several days. We anticipate increased danger on or about 15 May, the anniversary of the end of the British Mandate over Palestine in 1948. We are hearing [redacted] that a major attack on US targets is being planned for this period. Moreover, terrorist attacks frequently coincide with significant and traumatic events in Arab history. [redacted]

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2. Beyond the danger of terrorist attacks, [redacted] the likelihood of a violent incident in Lebanon involving the Syrians, PLO units and the Israelis seems to be growing steadily. Syrian belligerence, the introduction of more Palestinian fighters into the Bekaa Valley with Syrian approval, unusual Israeli activity in Northern Galilee and the Golan Heights, continuing war propaganda and brinksmanship increase the odds of hostilities. [redacted]

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Robert M. Gates

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